Gaglardi Accepts Blame for Slide

HIGHWAYS MINISTER P. A. GAGLARDI

REVELSTOKE, B.C. (CP)—British Columbia Highways Minister Phil Gaglardi said Sunday it was "quite likely" that a massive mud, rock and snow slide which claimed four lives here Friday was the fault of construction on a nearby highway.

Killed were Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Pletsch, Mrs. Herman Schuetze and her 10-month-old son, Eric.

They died when the house was thrown on its side by the avalanche, caught fire and turned into a blazing inferno.

Mr. Gaglardi said that if road construction on the Trans-Canada Highway near the scene of the disaster was the cause "the provincial government would probably be responsible.

"If we are liable we will see that everything is cared for," he said.

RCMP said they believe three of the victims were killed instantly when the slide roared upon the home, but that Mrs. Pletsch died from suffocation when flames from a broken furnace filled the toppled dwelling.

"This is just one of those tragedies we couldn't do anything about," Mr. Gaglardi said.

Five Still Orbiting

All-Satellite Tally 658,000,000 Miles

WASHINGTON (AP)—Earth satellites by noon Sunday had travelled more than 658,000,000 miles. That is 3½ times the distance to the sun.

Calculations by the Vanguard Computing Centre include U.S. and Russian earth satellites except the short-lived Discoverer satellite launched from California, which the Vanguard centre never tracked.

They include satellites that have fallen but do not take into consideration the travels of the Soviet Lunik or Mechta rocket, which is in orbit around the sun, or of Pioneer IV, first successful U.S. solar satellite.

Here are the tallies on satellite milages up to noon Sunday:

Satellites still in orbit: Explorer I, launched Jan. 31, 1958—151,500,000 miles in 422 days;

Vanguard I, launched March 17, 1958 — 146,000,000 miles, 377 days;

Sputnik III, launched May 15, 1958 — 121,000,000 miles, 320 days;

Explorer VI, launched July 26, 1958—79,500,000 miles, 216 days;

Vanguard II, launched Feb. 17, 1959—14,700,000 miles, 40 days.

Sidney Group Elects Leach

Dr. William Leach was elected president at the recent meeting of the Sidney Rock Club.

Other officers elected were A. E. Holder, vice-president; Nita Donaldson, secretary, and J. C. Fish, treasurer.

Dr. Stuart Holland of the provincial department of mines was guest speaker.

Postmen Want Rights

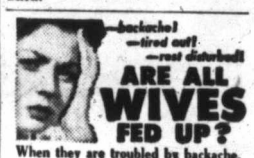
VANCOUVER (CP)—About 1,000 postal workers here have voted to support a drive by Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto Winnipeg workers to gain bargaining rights and pay increases for post office employees.

The workers have approved a resolution calling for a $40-a-month across-the-board increase plus an additional $20 a month for mail handlers, the lowest-paid postal workers.

The resolution also asks the federal government to make postal workers exempt from provisions of section 55 of the Industrial Relations and Disputes Investigations Act. This section excludes civil servants from the rights of collective bargaining.

Spokesmen for the Federal Association of Letter Carriers and the Canadian Postal Employees Association told the meeting little or no progress has been made in the last 15 months of negotiations with the federal government.

"All we hear from the government is that they are looking into the matter," a spokesman said.



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—tired out!
—rest disturbed!

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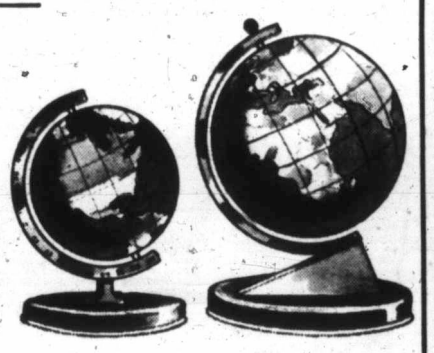

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